

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 306039  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

DRAFTED BY:AF:WCHARROP  
APPROVED BY:AF:WCHARROP  
S/S-O:HWEINLAND

-----130853 230500Z /14  
O 230417Z DEC 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 306039

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ADDIS ABABA CRITIC1/1977 SENT ACTION DIRNSA  
DEC 22.  
QUOTE S E C R E T CRITIC 1/1977

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, MOPS, ET, UR, US

SUBJ: ETHIOPIA REPORTED CONSIDERING BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH US

1. ETHIOPIAN FONMIN THIS MORNING SUMMONED ME TO  
MEET WITH HIM AT 1600 HRS LOCLA TIME (0800EST). NO SUBJECT GIVEN.
2. SINCE THEN, POLCOUNS LEARNED FROM ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE MOFA SOURCE  
(STRICTLY PROTECT) THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR, CUBAN AMBASSADOR, AND TWO  
TOP SOVIET GENERALS ADVISING ETHIOPIAN ARMED FORCES WENT TO DIRG  
FIVE DAYS AGO TO CHARGE THAT US HAD MOUNTED INTERNATIONAL CAM-  
PAIGN TO SABOTAGE SOVIET AND CUBAN EFFORTS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE  
TO EPMG IN ITS EFFORTS TO RESIST SOMALI INVATION. CITING US REP  
SECRET

SECRET

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RESENTATIONS IN VARIOUS CAPITALS TO HAMPER SOVIET AIRLIFT,  
PRESS BRIEFINGS IN WASHINGTON ON SAME SUBJECT, US EXPRESSIONS OF  
CONCERN OVER DOUBLING OR TRIPLING OF NUMBER OF SOVIET AND CUBAN  
MILITARY ADVISORS IN ETHIOPIA, SOVIETS CLAIMED THAT US WAS  
THEREBY IN EFFECT ACTIVELY ASSISTING SOMALIA. THEY ACCORDINGLY  
STRONGLY PRESSED FOR EPMG WITHDRAWAL OF  
ITS AMBASSADOR FROM WASHINGTON AND IMMEDIATE CLOSURE OF

AMERICAN EMBASSY IN ADDIS.

2. EMBASSY'S SOURCE SAID THAT THOSE IN DIRG AND ELSEWHERE IN GOVT WHO OPPOSED COMPLETE SOVIET TAKEOVER OF ETHIOPIANS DESTINY SAW THIS LATEST SOVIET MOVE AS PATENT EFFORT TO REMOVE LOCAL SCENE PRICCPAL COUNTERVAILING FORCE TO SOVIET SESINGS, AND THAT ONCE LAST AMERICAN WAS GONE. SOVIETS ANTICIPATED THAT THEY WOULD THEN HAVE FREE HAND TO DICTATE EVENTS HERE AND ULTIMATELY ELSEWHERE IN HORN OF AFRICA. HE SAID THAT FONMINS AFTERNOON MEETING WITH CHARGE HAD BEEN ORDERED BY DIRG TO CONFRONT HIM WITH SOME OF ABOVE CHANGES AND TO SEE WHAT CHARGE HAD TO SAY IN DEFENSE OF US POLICY. FONMIN WAS THEN TO REPORT BACK TO DIRG, AND ON BASIS OF CONCLUSIONS DRAWN, DECISION WOULD THEN BE MADE WHETHER OR NOT TO BREAK RELATIONS. SOURCE INDICATED THAT HE WAS PASSING ON THIS INFO IN HOPE THAT CHARGE'S RESPONSE TO FONMIN WOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY DIPLOMATIC TO PREVENT ABRUPT DIRG DECISION THAT ALL ETHIOPIANS WOULD LIVE TO REGRET.

3. RELIZE THERE IS ALMOST NO TIME TO REACT TO ABOVE MESSAGE, BUT URGENTLY REQUEST ANY GUIDANCE DEPT CAN PROVIDE. WITHOUT SAME, CHARGE PLANS TO TAKE NOTE AND REQUEST TIME TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS.  
MATHERON UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE306039  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AF:WCHARROP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 86b8cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ETHIOPIA REPORTED CONSIDERING BREAK IN RELATIONS WITH US  
**TAGS:** PDIP, MOPS, ET, UR, US  
**To:** NAIROBI  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009